

# The Fore-Runner OF REVENGE.

Being two Petitions :

THE ONE

To the **KINGS** most Excellent Majesty.

THE OTHER,

To the most Honourable Houses of Parliament.

Wherein is expressed divers actions of the late Earle of  
*Buckingham* ; especially concerning the death of King  
*James* , and the Marquesse *Flamilton* ,  
supposed by poyson.

Also may be observed the inconveniences befalling a State  
where the Noble disposition of the Prince is  
mis-led by a Favourite.

By *George Eglisham* Doctor of Physick , and one of the  
Pyficians to King *James* of happy memory, for his  
Majesties person above ten ycers space.

Printed at London in the year

To the most Potent Monarch CHARLES  
King of great Britaine.

*The humble Petition of George Eggham, Doctor of Physick, lately  
one of King JAMES his Physicians for his Majesties person,  
above the space of ten yeeres.*

S. I. R.,

**N**O better motive there is for a safe government, then the safe meditation of death. (equalling Kings with Beggar) and the exact justice of God requiring of them, that the good suffering misery this life, should receive joy in the other; and the wicked flourishing securely in this, might be punished in the other. That which pleaseth, lasteth but a moment; which tormenteth, is everlasting. Many things we see unrewarded or unpunished in this inferiour World, which in the universall weight of Gods justice, must be counterpoised elsewhere. But wilfull and secret murder hath seldom been observed to undiscovered or unpunished even in this life, such a particular and notable revenge perpetually followeth it; to the end that they who are either Atheists or Machiavelists, may not trust too much to their wits in doing so horrible injustice. Would to God your Majesty would well consider what I have often said to my Master, King James, the greatest policy is honesty; and howsoever any man seeme to himself wise in compassing his desires by tricks, yet in the end he will prove a foole: for falshood ever deceiveth her own master at length, as the Devill (author of all falshood) always doth, leaving his adherents desolate, when they have the greatest need of his help; No falshood without injustice, no injustice without falshood, albeit it were in the person of a King.

There is no Judge in the World more tied to do justice then a King, whose coronation tyeth him unto it by solemne oath, which if he violate, he is false and perjured.

It is justice that maketh Kings, justice that mayntains Kings, and injustice that brings Kings and Kingdomes to destruction, to fall into misery, to die like Asses in ditches, or a more beastly death, eternall infamy after death, as all Histories from time to time do cleerly manifest.

What need hath mankind of Kings but for justice? Men are not born for them, but they for men: what greater, what more royall occasion in the World could be offered to you Ma. to shew your impartiall disposition in matters of justice at the first entry of your Reign, then



then this which I offer in my just complaint against *Blackmore*, by whom your Majesty suffereth your self so far to be led, that your best Subjects are in doubt whether he is your King, or you his. If your Majesty know and consider how he hath tyrannized over his Lord and Master King *James*, (the weakly Creator of his fortunes) how insolent, how ingrate an Oppressor, what a murderer and traitor he hath proved himself towards him, how treacherous to his upholding friends the Marquess of *Hamilton*, and others, your Majesty may think (giving way to the Laws demanded against him) to yield a most glorious field for your Majesty to walk in, and display the banner of your Royall virtues.

Your Majesty may perhaps demand, what interest I have therein, what have I to doe therewith, that I should stir, all others being quiet? Sir, the quietness of stirring of others, expecteth only a beginning from mee, whom they know so much obliged to stirre, as none can be more, both in respect of knowledge of passages, and in regard of humane obligation, and of my independancy from the accused, or any other that has power or credit can reach unto, many know not what I know therein, others are little or nothing beholding to the dead; others albeit they know it as well as I, and are obliged as deep as I, yet dare not complain so safely as I, being out of their reach, who are inseparable from him by his incantations, and all to obscure my selfe, untill the power of full revenge upon him be obtained from God.

What I know sufficient against him, I have set downe in my petition against him to the Parliament; to which if your Majesty dismishe him, sequestred from your Majesty chiefly in an accusation of treason, you shall doe what is just, and deliver your self and your Kingdome from the captivity in which hee holdeth them, and your Majesty oppressed. How easily I may eclipse my selfe from his power to do mee harme, unlesse hee had legions of infernall spirits at his command to pursue mee, your Majesty may well know, I being *ultra mare*, to these Dominions where he ruleth and rageth.

How far I am obliged to complain more then others, I will in few words expresse, that neither your Majesty nor any man may think otherwise, but that I have most just reason not to be silent in a wrong so intolerable, the interest of blood which I have to any of them, of whose death I complaine either by the House of *Balgony*, *Lunday* or *Silverton-Hill*, albeit it is easie to be made manifest and sufficient to move me, yet it is not the sole motive of my breach of silence, but the interest of received courtesie, and the heap of infallible tokens of true affection, is more then sufficient to stir me thereto, unlesse I would prove the most ingrate in the World, and senselesse of the greatest injuries that can be done unto my self; for who killed King *James* and Marquess *Hamilton*, in that part of the injury which is done unto me therem, hee hath done as much as robbed me of my life, and all my fortunes and friends.

With such constant and loving impressions of me as are neither to be recovered nor duly valued: for his Majesty from the third yeer of my age, did practise honorable tokens of singular favour towards me, daily augmented them in word, in writ, in deed, accompanied them with gifts, patents, offices, recommendations both in private and publike, at home and abroad graced so far, that I could scarce aske any thing, but I could have obtained it.

How much honour he hath done unto me there needs no witness unto your Majesty, who is sufficient for many; no lesse is my Lord Marquess *Hamiltons* friendship established by a succession of most acceptable offices continued by four success

these three generations, ingraven in the tender minds and yeers of the Marquesse and me in the presence of our Sovereigne King James. For when the Marquesse his Father, who with the right hand on his head and the left on mine, did offer us (young in yeers) so joynd, to kisse his Majesties hand, recommending me to his Majesties favour, I take God to witnesse, that this young mans father was the best friend that ever I had, or shall have in this World. Whereupon the young Lord resolved to put trust in mee, and I fully to addre my self to him, to deserve of him as much commendations as my father did of his father.

This Royall celebration of our friends rooted it self so deep in my minde, that to my self I purposed this remembrance, giving it to my young Lord, and to my familiar friends, and set it upon the books of my study, *Semper Hameltonum, &c.*

*Always the King and Hamelton*

*Within thy breast conserve.*

*What ever be thy actions,*

*Let Princes two deserve.*

Neither was it in vain, for both our loves increased with our age. The Marquesse promising to engage his life and whole estate for me, if need were, and so share his fortunes with me; and not onely promising, but also performing when ever there was occasion: yea, for my sake offering to hazard his life in combat, whose mind in wishing me well, whose tongue in honouring of me, and whose hands and means in defending me (both absent and present, unto the last period of his life) hath ever assisted me.

I should be more tedious then were fit, if I should rehearse every particular favour so manifestly knowne to the whole Court, and to the friends of us both: who then can justly blame me, demanding justice as well for the slaughter of the Marquesse of Hamelton, as of my most gracious Sovereigne King James, seeing I know whom to accuse; My profession of Physick, nor my education to letters, cannot serve to hinder me from underraking the hardest enterprize that ever any Roman undertook, so far as the Law of conscience will give way,

*Why should I stay at the decay*

*Of Hameltons the hope,*

*Why shall I see thy foe so free,*

*Vnto this joy give scope?*

*Rather I pray a dolefull day*

*Set me in cruell fate:*

*Then thy death strange without revenge,*

*Or him in safe estate.*

*This soule to heavens hand to the dead I vow,*

*No fraudfull minde, nor trembling hand I have:*

*If pen it shan, the sword revenge shall follow,*

*Soule, Pen and Sword, what thing but just doe crave.*

What affection I bore to the living, the same shall accompany the dead: for when one (whose truth and sincerity was well knowne unto me) told me that it was better



that the chiefest of my friends the Marquesse of *Hamelton*, to be quiet at home in *Scotland*, then eminent in Court of *England*; to whom by the opinion of the wiser sort, his being at Court will cost him no lesse then his life, sith that I stretching forth mine arme (apprehending some plots laid against him) answered, if no man dare to revenge his death, I vow to God this hand of mine shall revenge it, scarcely any other cause to be found, then the bond of our close friendship, why in the scrowle of Noble mens names who were to be killed, I should be set down next to the Marquesse of *Hamelton*, and under these words, viz. (the Marquesse and Doctor *Eghsham* to embalne him) to wit, to the end that no discoverer or revenger should be left, this roll of names I know not by what destiny, was found nere to *Westminster*, about the tyme of the Duke of *Richmond* his death, and brought to the Lord Marquesse by his cozen the daughter of the Lord *Oldbarr*, one of the privy Councell of *Scotland*, did cause no terror in mee untill I did see the Marquesse poysoned, and remembered that the rest therein noted, were dead, and my selfe next pointed at only surviving: why stay I any more, the cause requireth no more the pen but the sword?

I doe not write so boldly, because I am amongst the Dukes enemies, but I have retired my selfe to his enemies, because I was resolved to write and doe earnestly against him, as may very well appeare; for since the Marquesse of *Hamelton*'s death, the most noble Marquesse de *Fiatta*, Embassadour for the most Christian King of *France*, and also Buckingham his brother sent on every side to seeke me, inviting me to them, but I did forsake them, knowing certainly the fallshood of *Buckingham* would suffer the Embassador rather to receive an affront then to be unsatisfied of his blood-thirsty desire of my blood, to silence me with death. (for according to the proverb, *The dead cannot lye*) if he could have found me: for my Lord Duke of *Lenox*, who was often crossed by *Buckingham*, with his brother; and the Earle of *Southampton* now dead, was one of the roll found of those that were to be murdered, well assured me, that where *Buckingham* once misliked, no apologie, no submission, no reconciliation could keepe him from doing mischief.

Neither doe I write this in this fashion so freely for any entertainment here present, which I have not, nor for any future which I have no ground to looke for, seeing *Buckingham* hath so much mislead your Majesty, that he hath caused not only here, but also in all Nations, all *Britaine* Natives to be disgraced and mistrusted, your Majesties most royall word, which should be inviolable, your hand and seal which should be unfringeable, to be most shamefully violated, and your selfe to be most ingrate for your kind usage in *Spaine*, which *Buckingham* maketh to be requited with injuries in a most base manner; under protestation of friendship, a bloody war being kindled on both sides, whereby he hath buried with King *James*, the glorious name of *Peace-making King*, who had done much more justly and advisedly if hee had procured peace unto Christendome, whereby small hope I have of obtaining justice on my most just complaint, unto which my deare affection unto my deare friends murdered, and extreame detestation of *Buckingham* his violent proceedings hath brought me. Your Ma<sup>ty</sup> may finde most just causes to accuse him in my Petition to the Parliament, which shall serve for a touchstone to your Majestie, and a whetstone to me and many other Scotmen; and which if it be neglected, will make your Majesty to incurre a censure amongst all ver-  
nious men in the world, that your Majesty will be loath to heare of, and I am astoni-  
shed to expresse at this time.

*A Serpent lurketh in the grasse.*

No other way there is to be found to save your honour, but to give way to Justice against that traytor *Buckingham*, by whom manifest danger approached to your Majesty, no otherwise then death approached to King *James*.

If your Majesty will therefore take any course therein, the examination upon oath of all those that were about the King and the Marquesse of *Hamilton* in their sickness, or at their deaths, or after their deaths, before indifferent Judges (no dependants on *Buckingham*) will serve for sufficient proofe of *Buckingham* his guiltinesse. In the meane time, untill I see what will be the issue of my complaint, without any more speech I rest,

Your Majesties daily Suppliant,  
George Eglisham.



To the most Honourable the Nobilitie,  
Knights and Burgesses of the Parliament of  
ENGLAND.

*The humble Petition of George Eglisham Doctor of Physicke, and one of the Physicians to  
K. James of happy memory, for his Majesties person above the  
space of ten yeares.*

**W**Hereas the chiefe humane care of Kings, and Courts of Parliament, is the preservation and protection of the subjects lives, liberties and estates, from private and publicke injuries, to the end that all things may be carried in the equall ballance of Justice, without which no monarchy, no Common-wealth, no society, no family, yea no mans life or estate can consist, albeit never so little: It cannot be thought unjust to demand of Kings and Parliaments the censure of wrongs, the consideration whereof was so great in our Monarch of happy memory King JAMES, that he hath often publicly protested, even in the presence of his apparent heire, that if his owne sonne should commit murther, or any such execrable act of injury, he would not spare him, but would have him dye for it, and would have him more severely punished then any other: For he very well observed, no greater injustice, no injury more intollerable can be done by man to man, then murther. In all other wrongs fortune hath recourse, the losse of honour or goods may be repaired, satisfaction may be made, reconciliation may be procured, so long as the party injured is alive. But when the party murdered is bereft of his life, what can restore it? what satisfaction can be given him? where shall the murtherer meet with him to be reconciled to him, unlesse he be sent out of this world to follow the spirit, which by his wickednesse he hath separated from his body? Therefore of all injuries, of all the acts of injustice, of all things most to be looked into, murther is the greatest: And of all murders, the poysoning under trust and profession of friendship, is the most he-



nous. which if you suffer to goe unpunished, let no man thinke himselfe so secure to live amongst you, as amongst the wildest and most furious beasts in the world: for by vigilancy and industry means may be had to resist or evict the most violent beast that ever nature bred, but from false and treacherous hearts, from poysoning murders, what wit of wisdom can defend?

This concerneth your Lordships every one in particular, as well as my selfe. They (of whose poysoning your Petitioner complaineth) viz. King JAMES, the Mar-  
quesse of HAMELTON, and others whose names after shall bee expressed, have been the most eminent in the Kingdome, and sate on these Benches whereon your Honours doe now sit. The party whom your Petitioner accuseth is the Duke of Buckingham, who is so powerfull, that unlesse the whole body of a Parliament lay hold on him, no justice can be had of him: For what place is there of Justice, what office of the Crowne, what degree of honour in the Kingdome, which he hath not sold? And sold in such craft, that he can shake the buyer out of them, and intrude others at his pleasure.

All the Judges of the Kingdome, all the Officers of State, are his bound vassals, or allies are afraid to become his out-casts, as it is notorious to all his Majesties true and loving subjects; yea, so farre hath his ambitious practice gone, that what the King would have done, could not be done if hee opposed it, whereof many instances may be given, whensoever they shall be required: Neither are they unknown to this Honourable assembly, howsoever the means he useth be, whether lawfull or unlawfull, whether humane or diabolique, so he tortureth the Kingdome, that hee procureth the calling, breaking, or continuing of the Parliament, at his pleasure, placing and displacing the Officers of Justice, of the Councell of the King, Court, of the Courts of Justice, to his violent pleasure, and as his ambitious villany moveth him: What hope then can your Petitioner have, that his complaint should be heard; or being heard, should take effect? To obtaine justice he may despaire; to provoke the Duke to send forth a poysoner or murderer to dispatch him, and send him after his dead friends already murdered, he may be sure this to be the event. Let the event be what it will, come whatsoever can come, the losse of his owne life your Petitioner valueth not, having suffered the losse of the lives of such eminent friends, esteeming his life cannot be better bestowed, then upon discovery of so heynous murders, yea the justnesse of the cause, the dearnesse and neednesse of his friends murdered, shall prevaile so farre with him, that he shall unfold unto your Honours, and unto the whole world, against the accused, and name him the authour of so great murders, *George Villers, Duke of Buckingham*, which against any private man, are sufficient for his apprehension and torture. And to make his complaint not very tedious, he will only for the present, declare unto your Honours, the two eminent murders committed by *Buckingham*, to wit of the Kings Majesty, and of the Lord Marquesse *Hamelton*, which for all the subtilty of his poysoning Art, could not be so cunningly conveyed as the murderer thought, but that God hath discovered manifestly the authour. And to observe the order of the time of their death, because the Lord Marquesse *Hamelton* died first, his death shall be first related, even from the root of his first quarrell with *Buckingham*, albeit many other jarres have proceeded from time to time betwixt them.

Concerning the poisoning of the Lord Marquesse  
HAMELTON.

**B**UCKINGHAM once railed from the bottom of Fortunes wheele to the top, by what desert, by what right or wrong, no matter it is, (by his carriage the proverb is verified) *Nothing more proud then basest blood, when it doth rise aloft.* He suffered his ambition to carry himselfe so farre, as to aspire to match his blood with the Blood-Royall both of *England* and *Scotland*. And well knowing, that the Marquesse of *Hamelton* was acknowledged by King *James* to be the prime man in his Dominions, who next to his owne line, in his proper season might claime an hereditary Title to his Crowne of *Scotland*, by the Daughter of King *James* the second, and to the Crown of *England* by *Joane* of *Sommer-set*, wife to King *James* the first, declared by an Act of Parliament Heretrix of *England* to be in her due ranke, never suffered the King to be at rest, but urged him alwayes to send some of his Privie Councell to sollicite the Marquesse to match his eldest sonne with *Buckingham*s Neece, making great promises of conditions, which the meane family of the Bride could not performe without the Kings liberality, to wit, fifty thousand pound Sterling, valuing five hundred thousand Florens with the Earldome of *Orkney*, under the title of Duke, whatsoever the Marquesse would accept, even to the first Duke of *Britaine*.

The glorious Title of a Duke the Marquesse refused twice, upon speciall reasons reserved to himselfe.

The matter of money was no motive to cause the Marquesse to match his sonne so unequall to his degree, seeing *Buckingham* himselfe, the chiefe of her kindred, was but a novice in Nobility, his father obicure amongst Gentlemen, his mother a Serving-woman: and he being infamous for his frequent consultation with the Ring-leader of Witches, principally that fallie Doctor *Lamb*, publicly condemned for witch-craft, whereby the Marquesse knowing that the King was so farre bewitched to *Buckingham*, that if he refused the match demanded, he should find the kings deadly hatred against him; And seeing that *Buckingham*s Niece was not yet Nubile in yeares, and that before the marriage should be confirmed, a way might be found out to annull it, unto which he was forced by deceitfull importunity: therefore he yeelded unto the Kings desire of the match; whereupon *Buckingham* and his faction fearing that delayes would bring lets, urged my Lord Marquesse to send for his sonne upon a Sunday morning betimes in all haste from *London* to Court at *Greenwich*, where never a word was spoken of marriage to the young Lord, till a little before Supper, and the marriage made before the King after Supper, And to make it more authenticke, *Buckingham* caused his Neece to be laid in bed with the Marquesse his sonne, for a short time in the Kings Chamber, and in his Majesties preience, albeit the Bride was yet innubile. Many were astonisht at the sudden newes thereof; all the Marquesse his friends fretting thereat, and some writing unto him very scornfull letters for the same.

The Marquesse having satisfied the Kings demands, did what hee could to prevent the confirmation of the marriage, and intended to send his sonne beyond the seas, travell through *France*, and so to passe his time abroad, untill that meanes were found to untie that knot which *Buckingham* had urged the King to tie upon his sonne.



But Buckingham to countermand the Marquesse his designe, causes the King and Prince to make the Marquesse his sonne to be sworne Gent: to the Princes Bed-chamber, and so to be detained with him within the Kingdome, untill that the Bride was at yeares ripe for marriage.

The time expired that Buckinghams neece became marriageable, Buckingham sent to the Marques to desire him to make the marriage, to be cōpletely confirmed.

The marquesse (not willing to heare of any such matter) answered briefly he scorned the motion.

This answer reported to Buckingham, and seeing himselfe like to be frustated of his ambitious matching of his neece, and perceiving that the Lord Marquesse was able to raise a great faction against him, whether King *James* did live or die, was mightily incensed against the Marquesse: At the first incounter with him, did challenge him for speaking disdainfully of him and his house.

The Marquesse replyed, he did not remember any offensive words uttered by himselfe against Buckingham. Buckingham then proudly said unto him, out of the words of thy mouth I will judge thee: for you have said, you scorne the motion of matching with my house, which I made unto you. The marquesse answered, that if he had said so, it became not the Duke to speake unto him in that fashion. So Buckingham threatned to be revenged: The Marquesse uttered his defiance; and thus the quarrell began, which foure or five times was reiterated, and as often reconciled by *Marquesse de Fietta*, a little before the Marquesse of Hamelton fell sick, wherein it is very evident that the quarrel hath beene very violent, that needed so many reconciliations, The Dukes fire of his anger, being unextinguishable, as *K. James* did often censure him in his absence, albeit that a favourite, that he was wonderfull vindicative, whose malice was insatiable towards my Lo: Marquesse of Hamelton, did well shew it selfe as shall appeare hereafter.

Hardly can any man tell whether by the Marquesse in his sicknesse, Buckingham was more suspected then accused of the poyson given or to be given him: for he would not taste of any thing that was sent him by any of Buckinghams friends; but he would have some of his servants taste of it before: and for the love that was mutuall betweene him and your Petitioner (whom hee would never suffer to go out of his sight during his sicknesse) your Petitioner cast off all that he tooke in that time, unto whom his suspicion of Buckingham hee expressed by name before sufficient witnesse, who will testifie upon oath, if there bee any course taken therein for the search thereof, all the time of his sicknesse he intreated your petitioner not to suffer my Lo: of Buckingham to come neere him, and your Petitioner having often sent word, and also sometimes signified himselfe to Buckingham, that there was no fit opportunity to see the Marquesse, pretending something to be ministred to him. But when your petitioner could finde no more excuses, he told my Lo: Marques that he had put away my Lo: of Buckingham so often, that he could not keepe him away any longer, but that he must needs see him.

Then he knowing Buckinghams visitation to proceed of dissimulation, requested

your petitioner at last to finde the means to get him away quickly: which your Petitioner did, interrupting Buckingham his discourse, and intreating him to suffer my Lord Marquess to bee quiet.

This did evidently shew my Lord Marquess his disliking and distrusting of Buckingham, whereas hee was pleased with other Noblemens Company. All the time of his sicknesse, the Duke and my Lord Denbigh would not suffer his own son to come to him, pretending that he was also sicke; which was false for the time that my Lord Marquess called for him. After this your Petitioner advised his Lordship to dispose of his estate, and of his conscience, his sicknesse was not without danger, which your Petitioner foure dayes before my Lords death, did in such manner perceive, that hee had cause to commit all the care of his health to God and his Physitians, assuring howsoever hee had gotten wrong abroad, he should get none in the cure of his disease.

At length his Lordship burst out in these words to my Lord Denbigh, It is a great cruelty in you, that you will not suffer my son to come to me when I am dying that I may see him, and speake to him before I dye. So they delayed his coming with excuses, untill my Lord his agony of death was neere, to the end that he should not have time to give his son private instructions to shun the marriage of Buckinghams Neece, or to signifie unto him the suspicion of poyson: for they had rather his son should know any thing, then either of these; yet many did suspect his poyson before he died: for two dayes before his death, two of his servants died with manifest signs and suspicion, of poyson, the one belonging to the Wine-celler, the other to the Kitchen.

The Fatall houre being come, that my Lord Marquess deceased, your Petitioner intreated all were present, to suffer no man to touch his body, untill that he returned to see it opened. For then he protested earnestly, that all the time of his sicknesse, he judged it to be poyson; but this poyson was such, and so farre gone, that none could help it: Nevertheles, to have the matter concealed, Buckingham would have him buried that same night in Westminster Church, and the Ceremonies of his buriall to be kept afterwards, saying, that such delicate bodies as his could not be kept.

But his friends taking hold of the caveat before given by your Petitioner, refused so to doe, and replied, that they would have him, as became him to bee buried in Scotland in his owne Chappell, where all his Ancesters have beene buried for more then these four hundred yeares; and that his body must bee visited by his Physitians.

No sooner was he dead, when the force of the poyson had overcome the force of his body, but it began to swell in such sort, that his Thighes were swolne sixe times as bigge as their naturall proportion: his Belly became as the belly of an Oxe, his Arms as the natural quantity of Thighs, his Neck so broad as his Shoulders, his Cheekes over the top of his Nose, that his Nose could not be seen or distinguished, the skin of his fore-head two fingers high swelled, the haire of his beard, eye-browes and head, so farre distant one from another, as if an hundred had beene taken out betweene each one; and when one did touch the haire, it came a-



way with the skin as easily, as if one had pulled hay out of an heap of hay. He was all over his neck, breast, shoulders, armes, and browes I say of divers colours, full of waters of the same colour, some white, some blacke, some red, some yellow, some Greene, some blew, and that as well within the body as without.

Also the concavities of his Liver Greene his stomach in some places a little purpurated with a blew clammy water, adhering to the sides of it. His Mouth and Nose foaming blood mixt with froth mightily, of divers colours a yard high. Your Petitioner being sent for to visit his body, and his servants flocking about him, saying, See, see, presently weeping, said he was poysoned, and that it was a thing not to be suffered.

Moreover, he said, that albeit his speech might cost him his life, yet seeing his sorrow had extorted that speech out, he would make it manifest, and would have a Jury of Physitians. Presently, some of my Lord Marquess of Hameltons friends said, we must send to my Lord Duke, that he may send his Physitians: but your Petitioner replied, what have we to doe with the Dukes Physitians? Let us have indifferent men. Captaine *Hamelton* hearing your Petitioner so boldly take exceptions at Buckingham, and judging that he had good reason for what he had spoken, said, for all that let us send to the Duke, and signifie, that they all who have seen the Marquess his body, both Physitians, Chyrurgeons, and others, may see that hee is poysoned, and that his friends desire more Physitians out of the Colledge of London, besides the Dukes Physitians, to beare witnesse in what case the Marquess his body is in; and then if the Dukes conscience be guilty (said the Captain,) it will shew it self, as indeed it did: for the Duke being advertised hereof, sent for his owne Physitians, and others out of London, whom he caused first to be brought unto him, before they went to see the Marquess his body, giving them his directions in these words, viz.

*My Masters, there is a bruit spread abroad, that the Marquesse of Hamelton is poysoned; Doe see, but beware what you speak of poyson (which he said in a threatening forme of delivery) for every Noble man that dieth must be poysoned.*

If his conscience had not been guilty, should not he have commanded the Physitians to enquire by all meanes possible, and made it knowne rather then to suppress the speech of poysoning so worthy a man.

These Physitians being come, your Petitioner with one hand leading Doctor *More* to the Table where the Marquess his body was layd, and with the other hand throwing off the cloth from the body said to him, Look you here upon his spectacle.

At the sight whereof Doctor *More* lifting up both his hands, heart and eyes to the Heavens, agonished, said, Jesus blesse me, I never saw the like, I cannot distinguish a face upon him; and in like manner all the rest of the Doctors, and so the Chirurgions affirmed, that they never saw the like, albeit that they have travailed and practised through the greatest part of Eorope: onely one that said, my Lo: of Southampton was blistered all within the brest as my Lo: marquesses

was. Doctor *Leicester*, one of *Buckingham*s creature, seeing Doctor *More* & others so amazed at the sight of my Lords body, drew first him aside, and then the others, one after another, and whispered them in the eare to silence them.

Whereupon many went away without speaking one word; the other who remained, acknowledged that those accidents of the dead body, could not bee without poyson; but they said, they could not know how such a subtile art of poysoning could be brought into England; your Petitioner replied that money would bring both the Art and the Artiste from the furthest part of the World into England, from whence since your Petitioners departure, he hath conferred with the skilfullest Pestmasters that could be found, who visite the bodies of those that die of the venome of the pest..

They all admired the description of my Lo: Marques his body, and testified that never any of the pest have such accidents, but Carbuncles, Rubons, or Spots, no such huge blisters with waters, and such a huge uniforme swelling to such dimensions, above six times the naturall proportion. But he hath met with some who have practised the poysoning of dogs, to try the forces of some Antidotes, and they have found that some poysons have made the dogs sick for a fortnight or more, without any swelling untill they were dead, and then they swelled above measure, and became blistered with waters of divers colours, and the haire came away with the skin when it was touched.

The Phisicians then who remained, were willing to certifie under their hands, that my Lo: Marquesse was poysoned. But your petitioner told them it was not needefull, seeing we must needs attend Gods leasure to discover the author, the manner being so apparant, and so many hundreds having seen the body to witnesse it, for the doores were kept open for every man to behold and to bee witnesse who would.

The Duke of Buckingham making some counterfeit shew of sorrow, two men of great quality, found no other shift to divert the suspicion of the poysoning of the Marquesse from him, but to lay it upon his master the King, saying, that the marquesse for his person, spirit and carriage, was such as he was born worthy to reigne; but the King his Master hated him to death, because he had a spirit too much for the commonwealth; whereby the Duke did shew himselfe no good subject to the King, who made the Kings honour to be tyranicall, and the King a blood-thirsty murtherer, and a most vile dissembler, having heaped so many honours daily upon the Marquesse even to the very last, making him Lord high Steward of his Majesties house, and Judge of the very Court, whom he had made before Vice-roy of Scotland, for the time of the Parliament in Scotland, Earl of Cambridge, privie Councillor in England, and Knight of the Garter, as if hee had raised him to all these honours, that the murthering of him might be the lesse suspected to proceede from him.

The Kings nature hath alwayes beene observed, to have beene so gracious and so free-hearted towards every one, that hee would never have wished the Marquesse any harme, unlesse that Buckingham had put great jealousies and fears into his munde: for if any other had done it, he would have acquainted his favourit therewith



therewith. And then was it *Buckingham's* duty to remove from the King such  
sinistrus conceits of the *Marquesse*, as the *marquesse* hath often done of *Buck*  
*ingham*, upholding him upon all occasions, and keeping the King from giving  
way to introduce any other favourite: wherefore *Buckingham* in that diversion  
of the crime from him, hath not onely made the King but also himselfe guilty of  
the *Marquesses* death.

But *Buckingham's* falsehood and ill intention, was long before rightly disco-  
vered; when he did what he could to make the E. of *Northumberland* and my Lord  
*Gordon* (both neere kinsmen of my Lord *Marquesse*) so incensed at him, that they  
had like all three to have killed one another, if it had not been that my Lord *Mar*  
*quesse* by his wisdoms, did let them all know, how they were abused.

If any dissimulation be greater then *Buckingham's*, let any man judge: For  
when my Lord *Marquesse* his body was to bee transported from *White-hall* to  
his house at *Bishops-gate*, *Buckingham* came out muffled and furred in his Coach  
giving out that he was sicke for sorrow of my Lord *Marquesse* his death; but as  
soone as he went to his house out of *London*, before his comming to the King,  
he triumphed and domineered with his faction so excessively, as if he had gain-  
ed some great victory. And the next day comming to the King, put on a most  
lamentable and mournfull countenance for the death of the *Marquesse*. No grea-  
ter victory could he have gotten in his mind, then to have destroyed that man  
who would have tetcht his head off his shoulders if he had out lived King  
*James*, to have knowne his carnage in the poisoning of him in his sicknesse;  
wherefore he thought it necessary to remove the *Marquesse* beforehand.

The same day that my Lord *Marquesse* died, *Buckingham* sent my Lord *Mar*  
*quesse* his sonne out of *Towne*, keeping him as prisoner, none could have pri-  
vate conference with him, untill his marriage of *Buckingham's* Neece was com-  
pleat; but either my Lord of *Denbigh* or my lady of *Denbigh*, or my Lord Duke  
of *Buckingham*, or the Countesse of *Buckingham* was present, that none could let  
him understand how his father was murdered. Even your petitioner himselfe  
when he went to see him, was intreated not to speake to him of the poisoning  
of his father, which he did conceale at his first meeting, because their sorrow  
was too recent. But he was prevented of a second meeting, neither would *Buck*  
*ingham* suffer the young Lord to go to *Scotland* to see his Fathers Funerals, and  
to take order with his friends concerning his fathers estate, for feare that their  
intended marriage should be overthrowne.

This Captivity of the young Lord *Marquesse* lasted so long, untill that *Buck*  
*ingham* caused his Majesty, King *CHARLES*, to take the young Lord, with  
himselfe and *Buckingham*, into *St. James* his Parke, discharging all others from  
following them; and there to perswade and urge the young Lord, without any  
more delay to accomplish the marriage with *Buckingham* his Neece, which in-  
stantly was performed: so that *Buckingham* trusteth and presumeth, that albeit  
the young Lord should understand how his father was poisoned by his meanes,  
yet being married to his Neece, he would not stirre to revenge it, but comport  
with it.

Equal that is observed before, it is worthy to be added, that the bruit went through *London* long before the Lord Duke of *Richmonds* death, or his brother, or my Lord of *Sauvamprou*, or of the Marquess, that all the Noble men that were not of the Dukes faction, should be poysoned, and so removed out of his way.

Also a Paper was found in Kings Street, about the time of the Duke of *Richmonds* death, wherein the Names of all those Noblemen who have dyed since, were expressed; and your Petitioners Name also set next to my Lord Marquess of *Hameltan* Name, with these words (*to embalme him*). This Paper was brought by my Lord *Aldbarr* Daughter, Cousin german to the Lord Marquess. Likewise a Mountebanke about that time, was greatly countenanced by the Duke of *Buckingham* and by his means procured Letters Patents and Recommendations from the King, to practise his skill in Physick through all England; who coming to *London*, to sell Poyson, to kill man or beast within a year, or half a year, or two years, or a moneth or two, or what time prefixed any man desired, in such sort, that they could not be helped nor discovered. Moreover, the Christmas before my Lord Marquess his death, one of the Prince his footmen said, That some of the great ones at Court had gotten Poyson in their belly, but he could not tell who it was.

Here your Honours considering the premisses, of my Lord Duke of *Buckingham* his ambitious and most vindicative nature, his frequent quarrels with my Lord Marquess after so many reconciliations; his threatening of the Phylitians, not to speak of the poyson; his triumphing after my Lord Marquess his death; his detaining of his son almost prisoner, untill the Marriage was compleat with his Niece; the preceding bruit of poysoning *Buckingham* his Adversaries; the Paper of their Names found, with sufficient intimation of their death, by the conclusion of the word (*embalming*) the Poyson-monger, Mountebank, graced by *Buckingham*, may suffice for ground to take him and torture him, if he were a private man: And herein your Petitioner most earnestly demandeth Justice against that Traitor, seeing by Act of Parliament it is made Treason to conspire the death of a Privie Councillor. Out of this Declaration, Interrogatories may be drawne for Examination of Witnesses; wherein more is discovered to begin withall, then was laid open at the beginning of the Discoverie of the poysoning of *Sir Thomas Overbury*.

Con-



Concerning the poysoning of King JAMES of happy memory,  
 KING of GREAT BRITAIN.

**T**He Duke of Buckingham being in Spaine, advertised by Letters, how that the King began to censure him in his absence freely, and that many spake boldly to the King against him; and how the King had intelligence from Spaine of his unwholesome carriage in Spaine; and how the Marquesse Hamelton (upon the sudden news of the Princes departure) had nobly reprehended the King for sending the Prince with such a young man, without experience; and in such a private and sudden manner, without acquainting the Nobility or Councell therewith, wrote a very bitter letter to the Marquesse of Hamelton, conceived new ambitious courses of his owne, and used all the devices he could to disgust the Princes mind of the match with Spain, so far intended by the King, made haste home; where when he came, he so carried himselfe, that whatsoever the King commanded in his Bed-chamber, he controuled in the next; yea, received Packets to the King from forraigne Princes, and dispatched Answers without acquainting the King therewith, in a long time after. Whereat perceiving the King highly offended, and that the Kings mind was beginning to alter towards him, suffering him to be quarrelled and affronted in His Majesties presence; and observing that the King reserved my Lord of Bristol to be a ras for him, urging daily his dispatch for France, and expecting the Earle of Gondomar, who as it seemed was greatly esteemed and wonderfully excited by the King, and would second my Lord of Bristol his accusations against him. He knew also the King had vowed, that in spite of all the Devils in hell, he would bring the Spaniards much about againe, and that the Marquesse of Inicola had given the King bad impressions of him, by whose articles of accusation, the King himselfe had examined some of the Nobility and Privie Councell, and found out in the examination, that Buckingham had said after his coming from Spaine, that the King was now an old man, it was now time for him to be at rest, and to be confined to some Parke to passe the rest of his time in hunting, and the Prince to be crowned.

The more the King urged him to be gone to France, the more shifts he made to stay: for he did evidently see that the King was fully resolved to rid himselfe of the oppression wherein he held him.

The King being sick of a certaine Ague, and that in the Spring, was of himselfe never found deadly; the Duke took his opportunity when all the Kings Doctors of Physick were at dinner, upon the Munday before the King dyed, without their knowledge or consent, offered to him a white powder to take: the which he a long time refused; but overcome with his flattering importunity, at length took it in wine, and immediately became worse and worse, falling into many swoonings and paines, and violent fluxes of the belly, so tormented, that His Majesty cried out aloud of this white powder, Would to God I had never taken it, it will cost me my life.

In like manner also the Countesse of Buckingham, my Lord of Buckingham's mother;

mother, upon the Friday after the Physicians also being absent, and at Dinner, was not made acquainted with her doings, applied a plaister to the Kings heart & bled whereupon he grew faint, short breathed, and in a great Agony. Some of the Physicians after dinner returning to see the King, by the offensive smell of the plaister, perceived something to be about him hurtfull unto him, and searched what it should be, found it out, and exclaimed, that the King was poisoned. Then Buckingham entering, commanded the Physicians out of the room, caused one of them to be committed prisoner to his own house, and another to be removed from Court, quarrelled with others of the Kings servants in his sick Majesties own presence, so far that he offered to draw his sword against them in his Majesties sight. And Buckinghams mother kneeling down before His Majesty, cryed out with a brazen face, Justice, Justice, Sir, I demand Justice of your Majesty. His Majesty asked her for what? For that which their lives are no wages sufficient to satisfie, for saying that my sonne and I have poisoned your Majesty. Poisoned me? said he; with that turning himselfe, frownded, and she was removed.

The Sunday after His Majesty dyed, and Buckingham desired the Physicians to attend his Majesty, to signe with their hands a writ of testimonie, that the powder which he gave him, was a good and safe medicine; which they refused.

Buckinghams creatures did spread abroad a rumour in London, that Buckingham was so sorry for his Majesties death, that he would have dyed, that he would have led himselfe if they had not hindered him; which your Petitioner purposely enquired after of them that were neere him at that time, who said, that neither in the time of His Majesties sicknesse, nor after his death, he was more moved, then if there happened either sicknesse or death to His Majesty.

One day when his Majesty was in great extremity, he rode post to London to pursue his sister in law to have her stand in sackcloth in S. Pauls for adultery. And at other time in his Majesties Agonie, he was busie in contriving and concluding a marriage for one of his cousins.

Immediately after his Majesties death, the Physician who was commanded to the chamber, was set at liberty with a caveat to hold his peace; the others threaten they kept not good tongues in their heads.

But in the mean time the Kings body and head smelled above measure, his head with the skin of his head stuck to the pillow, his nailes became loose upon his fingers and toes.

Your Petitioner needeth to say no more to understanding men, only one thing to seccheth, That taking the Traytor who ought to be taken without any feare of greatnesse, the other matters may be examined, and the Accessories with the Guilty punished.

F I N I S.



